



HOW YOUR PENNY WORKS

How does Escambia Compare?

How do Escambia County's taxes and fees measure up to other counties in Florida? The following chart compares local counties and other Florida counties of similar population and size:

| County | Ad Valorem or County Millage Taxes <i>(Per \$1,000 of Assessed Property value)</i> | Ad Valorem Taxes or Total Millage <i>(Per \$1,000 of Assessed Property value)</i> | Impact Fees <i>(3 Bedroom Single Family Home)</i> | Local Option Sales Tax |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Escambia Population: 298,859 Square Miles: 762 | \$8.756 (Ranked #26 of 67 counties) | \$17.216 Includes school board and NWF Water District (Ranked #44 of 67 counties) | \$52.50 | 1.5% Rate includes .5% for Escambia County School Board |
| Santa Rosa Population: 138,276 Square Miles: 1,152 | \$6.6175 | \$16.1685 | None at the moment, but currently discussing | .5% For Santa Rosa School Board |
| Okaloosa Population: 181,460 Square Miles: 998 | \$4.25 | \$21.7251 | None | 0 |
| Sarasota Population: 355,477 Square Miles: 563 | \$4.0932 Plus a \$.1639 Debt Service Millage | \$13.9299 | \$7,693.95 | 1% |
| Manatee Population: 296,385 Square Miles: 772 | \$7.7245 Plus a \$.1543 Debt Service Millage | \$19.2488 | \$11,553.21 | .5% |

Millage rates from the 2004 Florida Department of Revenue Millage Rate by County Report, population & sales tax information referenced from www.eflorida.com; impact fees information referenced from *The 2005 National Impact Fee Survey*, Clancy Mullen, Duncan Associates.

QUICK FACTS

- **Ad Valorem-** Property taxes based on a millage rate.
- **Millage Rate-** Rate or percentage of taxes per \$1,000 of property value.
- **Impact Fees-** One-time fees placed on new construction for the construction or expansion of infrastructure or improvements that are needed to support the development and the impact on the surrounding areas.
- In addition to ad valorem, impact fees and local option sales taxes, counties may raise money for services through a MSBU or MSTU.
- **MSTU-** Municipal Service Taxing Unit, a funding source for providing services such as law enforcement or infrastructure such as streets and drainage projects. A separate millage rate is adopted annually and included in the property tax bill to fund MSTUs.
- **MSBU-** Municipal Service Benefit Unit, a funding source for services such as fire protection or projects such as street lighting for which the rate is apportioned equally among the benefited properties within the unit. MSBUs may also be included on the annual property tax bill.

**For more information on Escambia County's Local Option Sales Tax please contact:
Escambia County Office of Public Information & Communications at (850)595-3476
or visit www.myescambia.com**

